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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/849,510

05/04/2001

Xi Li

SAVI-001

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04/20/2006

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EXAMINER

BORISSOV, IGOR N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3639

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

Amendment received on 3/27/2006 is acknowledged and entered. Claims 14 and 30 have previously been canceled. Claims 1 and 17 have been amended. Claims 1-13, 15-29 and 31-51 are currently pending in the application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Claims include the term "and/or" which is confusing.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103 have been withdrawn.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-13, 15-29 and 31-51 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent Claims 1, 17, 45 and 46, the best prior art, McDonald (US 6,211,781) in view of Hines et al. (US 2001/0040512 A1) teaches a method and system for tracking and locating a moveable article, including: affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and to each conveyance used to store or carry the goods; marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing information on the location at a site

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server coupled to the data appliance; uploading the location information to a data center, the data center coupled to the site server; and compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current tag read.

However, McDonald in view of Hines et al. fails to disclose charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said location information regarding each tracked good.

Weiderin et al. (US 2002/0029178) teaches method for charging on-line directory assistance services, including tracking a number of accesses for the information by the user, and prepare billing information based upon the number of said accesses to the information by the user.

However, there is lack of motivation to combine references.

As per independent Claims 33, 36, 39 and 42, the best prior art, McDonald (US 6,211,781) in view of Hines et al. (US 2001/0040512 A1) teaches a system for tracking and locating a moveable article, comprising: a data center; one or more site servers coupled to the data center; one or more tags each of the tags affixed to a good or conveyance; and means for compensating for missing information by using a previous tag read and a current tag read.

However, McDonald in view of Hines et al. fails to disclose charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said location information regarding each tracked good.

Weiderin et al. (US 2002/0029178) teaches method for charging on-line directory assistance services, including tracking a number of accesses for the information by the user, and prepare billing information based upon the number of said accesses to the information by the user.

However, there is lack of motivation to combine references.

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The best foreign art, Loo et al. (EP 0 962 877 A1), teaches a method and apparatus for making up and managing a logistic chain for transporting goods, said method including collecting, delivery and packing/unpacking steps, wherein information on the status of execution of said steps is collected.

However, Loo et al. fails to disclose charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said location information regarding each tracked good.

The best NPL prior art, "1999 RFID Industry News Archive", teaches a mail tracking system based on radio frequency identification tags which are embedded in transportable articles, thereby allowing to track said transportable articles during transportation.

However, "1999 RFID Industry News Archive", fails to disclose charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said location information regarding each tracked good.

The remaining dependent claims are considered allowable, as they are dependent and based off of an allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

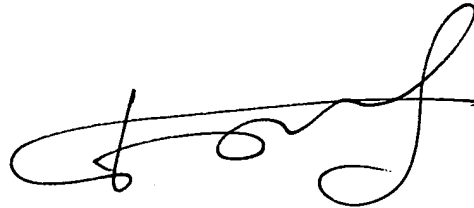
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supervisor, John W. Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IB

4/17/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Igor N. Borissov', with a stylized, flowing script.

**IGOR N. BORISSOV  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**